Justice Steven L. Hughes Place 3



Justice Steven L. Hughes was appointed Justice of the Eighth Court of Appeals by Governor Rick Perry In October 2014. Justice Hughes was born in Big Spring, Texas.

A promising clarinetist, Justice Hughes was selected three times to the Texas All-State Band in high school, and subsequently studied music at Texas Tech University, earning a Bachelor's degree in applied music (with highest honors) in 1975 and a Master's degree in applied music in 1976. He then began doctoral studies in music at the University of Michigan and the University of North Texas, where he was a Teaching Fellow. During this time, Justice Hughes also performed as a professional orchestral musician with the Oklahoma City Symphony Orchestra. Justice Hughes then attended the University of Texas School of Law, where he received a J.D. (with honors) in 1985.

After law school, Justice Hughes served as a briefing attorney for Chief Justice Clarence Guittard on the Dallas Court of Appeals. He then practiced for 28 years in El Paso with Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi, Paxson & Galatzan, handling hundreds of appeals in state and federal court. Justice Hughes has been board certified in Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1991, and has been named a Texas Super Lawyer in appellate law from 2005-2014 and a Top 50 Central/West Texas Super Lawyer in 2014. Justice Hughes was also listed in The Best Lawyers in America from 2012-2014.

Justice Hughes continues to play clarinet with the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, and he and his wife, Cindy Hughes, have one extremely spoiled basset hound.